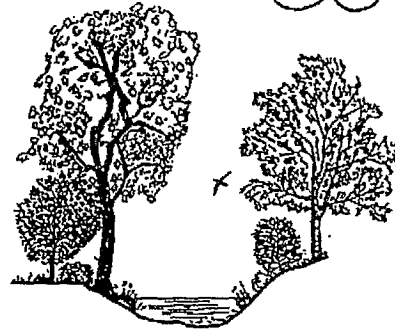


SANTA CLARA COUNTY
STREAMS FOR TOMORROW

Post Office Box 1409
San Martin, California 95046



July 28, 1999

Mr. Rick Breitenbach
CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Revised Phase II Report

The Revised Phase II Report documents continuing progress toward defining acceptable strategies for solving the multitude of water supply, water quality and environmental restoration problems facing the CALFED stakeholder effort.

We are concerned, however, that at this decisive stage of CALFED Program planning and public buy-in, there remains far too much emphasis on continuing to investigate new reservoir projects. California has enough surface reservoir storage. What we need is a priority emphasis on defining, modelling and understanding our groundwater storage basins and a preeminent Program commitment to use groundwater basins to their maximum, safe operational capacities. Groundwater storage must be viewed as the desired CALFED Program alternative to new surface storage.

Achieving maximum storage use of our groundwater basins concurrent with a greater emphasis on agricultural water conservation will address the water supply reliability needs of municipal and agricultural stakeholders. This approach also will yield adequate water for the "environmental water account" from existing surface storage sources, negating the potential call for new reservoirs to generate environmental water. A preeminent Program commitment to major agricultural water conservation is essential for a successful resolution of CALFED water supply and environmental restoration goals.

The final CALFED Phase II framework must give greater emphasis and Program commitment to reliance on groundwater storage rather than new reservoirs, provide environmental water for fish and wildlife restoration from existing surface storage sources, and substantially increase agricultural water conservation actions.

Mr. Rick Breitenbach
July 28, 1999
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As an affiliate of California Trout (CalTrout), we also recommend that you give substantial worth to the comments and recommendations from CalTrout (and other members of the Environmental Water Caucus) on the Revised Phase II Report and the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report. CalTrout represents a major stakeholder constituency and we respectfully request that our collective concerns and recommendations be heard and acted upon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our individual letter of comment and recommendation on the Revised Phase II Report.

Sincerely,



Keith R. Anderson
Environmental Advocate



Mary Cline
Executive Committee Chair

cc: California Trout

SCCSFT Reading File